



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshitaka SASAKI

Group Art Unit: 1763

Application No.: 09/812,553

Examiner: R. Culbert

Filed: March 21, 2001

Docket No.: 108972

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THIN FILM MAGNETIC HEAD

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

In reply to the April 28, 2003 Office Action, the statutory period for response being extended by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

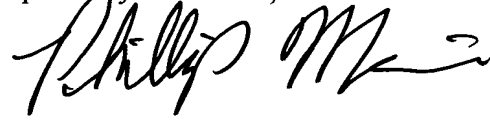
The Office Action rejects claims 2-4, 6, 8, 10-13, 20-25, 27-41, 43 and 47-50 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,791,719 to Kobayashi et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,329,211 to Terunuma et al. and further in view of JP-11-312303 to Sasaki; rejects claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kobayashi and Terunuma and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,183,656 to Ide et al.; rejects claims 14-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kobayashi and Terunuma in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,303,392 to Matsukuma; rejects claims 44-46 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kobayashi, Terunuma and Sasaki and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,072,671 to Gill; and rejects claim 26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kobayashi, Terunuma and Sasaki and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,130,805 also to Sasaki. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

In particular, Applicant submits that commonly assigned U.S. Patent No. 6,329,211 to Terunuma et al. does not qualify as prior art against this application. Terunuma et al. issued as a patent on December 11, 2001, therefore, it falls under the 35 U.S.C. §103(c) prior art exclusion for applications filed after November 29, 1999. This application was filed on March 21, 2001 with a priority date of March 22, 2000. Moreover, the priority document upon which Terunuma depends, JP-10-276246, did not publish until April 11, 2000. Therefore, because this is after the March 22, 2000 priority date of this application, JP-10-276246 can be antedated by perfecting this application's claim to priority. Accordingly, Applicant submits a certified translation of JP 2000-84756, the priority document for this application with this response. Because Terunuma et al. was relied upon in each of the above rejections, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of all outstanding claims 2-4, 6, 8-41 and 43-50 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Registration No. 46,743

JAO:PDM/ccs

Attachments:

Petition for Extension of Time
Certified Translation of JP 2000-84756

Date: August 26, 2003

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